



SOLD—The action was fast at the Spurlock-McElroy Real-Estate Sale as auctioneer Gerald Bowie and sale manager Fred Thompson dispersed the offering throughout the South and West. (Staff photo by Lee Pitts)

Prof says breed for two, but feed enough for one

Leaving a pregnant brood mare alone is probably the best thing a horse owner can do for her, according to William Tyznik, professor of animal science at Ohio State University.

People get very excited when a mare is in foal, he says, and "when they do this, they start feeding for two immediately. Unfortunately, too often they end up feeding for four and the mare gains excessive amounts of weight."

Additional problems occur when horse owners quarter the mare in her stall so she doesn't get injured. "This is also a fallacy," Tyznik points out. "The mare wants to be out. She needs to walk to keep physically fit."

A mare that jiggles when she walks is not in good shape. The fatter she gets, the more sedate she becomes, and the more sedate she is, the fatter she becomes, he says.

He suggests feeding the mare the way she has been fed all along. Give her good hay, and if this is not available, supplement hay with grain to make up the difference.

"The condition of the mare is the best gauge," Tyznik says. "If her ribs are covered, the rest of it really doesn't matter too much."

Another common misconception of horse owners is the vitamin supplements are necessary for a pregnant

mare. Vitamin A is the one most likely to be deficient. But most mares are on grass during the summer and store enough vitamin A in the liver to last six months. This carries her right on up to spring when the grass is back out, Tyznik points out.

Scientist's finding:

Sheep grazing on fescue suffer delayed conception

Sheep grazing on tall fescue pastures take longer to conceive than those grazing on orchardgrass pastures, says Paul Lynch, an animal scientist with USDA's Science and Education Administration. Intests at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Maryland, ewes eating tall fescue took two to three times longer to conceive than those eating orchardgrass.

Delayed conception extends the lambing season and is costly to sheep breeders. A long lambing season increases the need for farm labor. In addition, lambs may be born during the summer when heat and parasitic infections decrease the feed efficiency of lambs. Also, delayed lambing interferes with producers' chances of having three lamb crops in two years.

In the Beltsville experiments Lynch, James Bond

and their coworkers divided 30 cross-bred ewes into six groups and placed them in half-hectare (1.2 acre) pastures from June to November. All pastures contained pure stands of forages: two contained an experimental variety of tall fescue; two contained KY-31, a commonly grown tall fescue; and two contained orchardgrass. Ewes were bred by rams placed in the pastures and the rams were periodically rotated from one group of ewes to another.

In November, the ewes were moved into drylots and fed a half pound of grain per day each, plus all the hay they would eat. Hay was made from the pastures in which the ewes had been grazing. The type of pasture and hay did not affect the weight gains of the ewes.

Delayed conception time was the only difference among sheep from fescue pastures. Ewes did not

exhibit changes in eating behavior, nor did they show symptoms of fescue toxicity. (Cattle grazing on adjacent plots exhibited signs of summer syndrome.) There were also no significant differences in gestation length, average number of lambs, weight of lambs at birth, or lamb survival to 60 days of age.

Lynch reported the scientists' findings in Atlanta before the annual meeting of the southern section, American Society of Animal Science. "These studies show that fescue contains a factor that delays conception in sheep. We plan to follow up with further experiments to determine

why this delay occurs," says Lynch.

Tall fescue is sometimes called the "wonder grass." Ordinarily, it is a valuable forage; it is the predominant cool-season grass in the southeastern U.S.

ROOF COATINGS

Old roofs of composition shingles and old cedar shingles can be repaired many years. Anyone can do it by brush. M.A. BLACK is a special asphalt that dries in 30 minutes. Being thin, it penetrates into cracks and can, by itself, stop leaks. Not a tar. T.M. WHITE is a white coating developed especially to be brushed over the old roof. Either may be used without the other. Best recommendation is that the M.A. BLACK be applied, then two coats of T.M. WHITE. This very permanent repair at a cost of less than a new roof. The white surface contributes much to cooling in summer. This is our 31st year. Write for our catalog. We ship same day order is received.

VIRIDEN PERMA-BILT

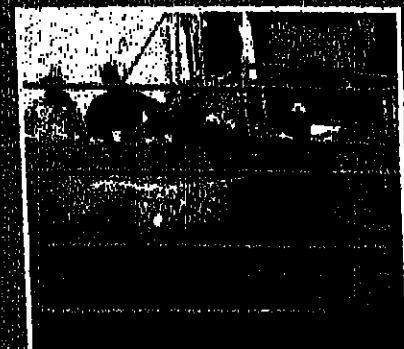
2821 Mays Ave. Box 7160 W
Amarillo, Texas 79109
806/352-2761

DEVON ACRES

Registered Devon Cattle
Horn Anderson, Manager
Breeding Stock Available at All Times
503/228-3109 • 11640 Hwy. 140
Eagle Point, Oregon 97824

SALES RESULTS

Red McCombs
Fiesta Texas Longhorn
Total Gross \$598,400 Average \$3,659
70 McCombs Consignments Averaged \$3,946



COMMON SENSE—Senator John D. Molcher, Mont., recently told Montana stockgrowers he hopes "wilderness" proposals "can be resolved on a common sense level." He thinks "it's too early to accurately assess wilderness and environmental policies of the new administration," and warned warned ranchers "it will take more than budget cuts to get the economy back to the hill country."

Comments

In the June issue of Livestock Magazine we carried some figures in the Livestock Monthly Index showing that as of Jan. 1, U.S. beef cow numbers provided the first solid evidence of herd expansion, rising 5% to 89 million head. The total cattle inventory reached 115 million, up 3% from a year ago though well below 1976's peak of 132 million.

Some in the industry believe we'll see another liquidation of cow numbers during the next year and a half. But one livestock leader, Jim Suckla, retiring president of the Colorado Cattlemen's Assn., told the CCA convention in Durango that this was nonsense.

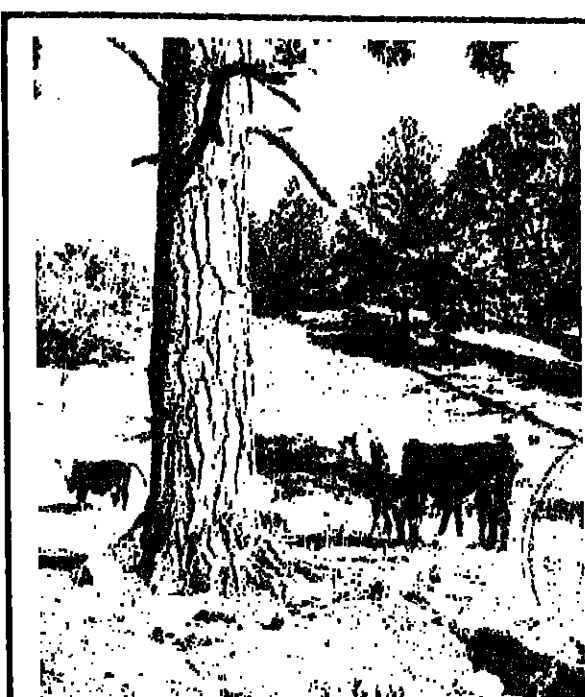
"Three years ago we thought if we reduced cattle numbers by say 20% everything would be rosy," said Suckla, "but it didn't work that way—instead, we lost 20% of our market for beef."

That remark caught a lot of attention. Beef cow herds in the intermountain region have, on the average, increased by 6% to 4.4 million. Suckla noted that "we're not making any money but we've been through that before." Suckla, who ranches near Cortez with his three sons, went on to say in his retiring speech that the fix cattlemen are in is their own doing. Public demands have changed, he said, but ranchers weren't quick enough to respond. "We've had some bad publicity on TV and in the press about beef causing disease or heaving bad for people's hearts."

Suckla sees a renewed per capita increase in beef consumption ahead—an even greater increase if the percentage of fat in beef is reduced. "One thing ranchers have finally realized is that the public won't pay for fat in meat because of tight household budgets. That's one reason hamburger is so popular. You can eat it all."

The turnout of Colorado cattlemen at Durango was very good, possibly because of the popularity of the long-time executive vice president, Dave Rice, who Suckla announced was retiring after 32 years of service to this 114 year old organization. Rice will continue with the association with reduced responsibilities, Suckla noted.

We have the privilege of meeting many livestock leaders across this country and in many other countries. It sometimes is a wonder to us how dedicated



WILDERNESS DEADLOCK—An end to the wilderness deadlock which has prevented the multiple-use management of 62 million acres of national forests for the past decade was called for recently by National Cattlemen's Assn. President Bill Swan. Swan testified before a Senate subcommittee in favor of the bill which would assure that land recommended by the Forest Service's RARE II study for non-wilderness designation be returned to multiple-use unless Congress decides otherwise. The bill also places a 1985 deadline on Congress decision concerning 36 million acres currently being considered for inclusion to the Wilderness Preservation System.

Breakthrough in genetic engineering:

New vaccine to be released

USDA has announced the creation of a new safe and effective foot-and-mouth disease vaccine through the use of genetic engineering techniques, reports CNS.

Foot-and-mouth disease is a highly contagious disease that strikes cattle, sheep, pigs and many other animals. Strict quarantine and regulatory procedures have kept the disease out of the U.S. for the past 60 years.

However, the disease is common in all but four of the world's major livestock-producing regions: North America, Central America, Australia and New Zealand.

USDA said Genetech, the San Francisco based firm that cooperated with the government in producing the vaccine, is expected to announce soon when the new product will be commercially available.

Although there has not been a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak in the U.S. since 1920, the new vaccine

is considered a major breakthrough for the world meat industry. "This breakthrough can mean annual savings of billions of dollars and an increase in the world's supply of meat," Agriculture Secretary John Block said in remarks prepared for delivery in a speech in Sacramento, Calif.

Block said he also considered the vaccine a breakthrough because it is apparently the first production of a vaccine through the use of gene-splicing.

USDA said animal tests conducted during an eight-week period show that the vaccine is effective in preventing foot-and-mouth disease.

Until now, 600 million doses of whole virus vaccines are produced and used annually in countries where the disease is found. However, USDA said the current vaccine production method is risky, because the vaccine produced, if improp-

erly administered, could cause the disease in vaccinated animals, USDA and Genetech scientists produced the new vaccine by gene-splicing, or cloning a portion of the virus coat.

Last year, USDA and Genetech signed a cooperative research agreement to develop the new vaccine. The agreement provided for the initial development stage of the research to be conducted exclusively in USDA's high-containment facility at the Plum Island Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

The U.S. essentially has a total ban in the import of livestock, fresh meat and dairy products from foot-and-mouth disease countries, an APHIS official told CNS. However, the U.S. does permit importing of cooked meat from such countries, if the meat is produced in plants using a USDA approved or supervised cooking procedure, he said.

At least 40% of the units in Iowa are advertised for sale while another 40% would sell if the opportunity arose, Kennedy said. Investors are not interested because the return on their invested money is not high enough compared with other investment options.

Kennedy estimated 10% of the hog confinement units in Iowa have been sold since the first of this year.

Another Iowa hog producer said the 40% estimate of those advertising to sell was too high, although many units were for sale.

Directors of Occidental Petroleum Corp. and Iowa Beef Processors, Inc. have agreed on definitive details for a merger of the two companies, reports CNS.

Under the agreement, 1,328 shares of Occidental common stock would be issued in exchange for each outstanding share of IBP common stock. IBP shareholders also will receive 0.985 of a share of Occidental voting nonconvertible preferred stock with a liquidation value of \$100 per share in exchange for each outstanding share of common stock of IBP.

IBP shareholders also may opt to receive Occidental stock in the form of five-year callable preferred stock with an annual dividend rate of \$14.62 or ten-year callable preferred stock with an annual dividend rate of \$14.00.

The transaction equals approximately \$77.00 per IBP share based on the closing price of Occidental common stock on Friday, May 29.

In addition, either party may cancel the agreement if it is not completed by Sept. 30.

The agreement also allows IBP not to proceed with the transactions if Occidental common stock price falls below an average \$25 per share for the 10 trading days

immediately before closing. Occidental has the option not to proceed if that average exceeds \$33 per share.

Shareholders of both companies and regulatory agencies still must approve the merger.

Plans call for IBP to continue as a separate subsidiary with its existing management and remain headquartered in Dakota City, Neb.

Plans call for IBP to continue as a separate subsidiary with its existing management and remain headquartered in Dakota City, Neb.

Plans call for IBP to continue as a separate subsidiary with its existing management and remain headquartered in Dakota City, Neb.

WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

News • Trends • Sales • Shows • Markets

June 29, 1981 Central Edition Vol. 60, No. 35

Colorado Cattlemen's Assn. has 114th annual convention

By CAROLYN J. HURST
The cattle business is one series of frustrations, Bill Ross, NCA Region V vice president from Jordan Valley, Ore., told cattlemen attending the 114th annual Colorado Cattlemen's Assn. (CCA) convention. "A lot of our frustrations came through changes of philosophy in our government," Ross said. "We in the cattle business are one of the last bastions of the free enterprise system... we operate solely on the theory of supply and demand."

The NCA official said that the Reagan administration has offered a much needed change in the government's attitude toward business. "Profit isn't a dirty word anymore," Ross said. He added that many top government officials are now pro-cattlemen. "For the first time in many years we in the cattle business see some of our friends at the top," Ross said, naming Interior Secretary Watt and BLM Director Burford.

Ross called for a complete overhaul of existing policies in the public land arena. "A patchwork approach is not good enough," he said. Ross cited two "statements of fact" which came out of a recent meeting on public land laws as support for his stand for reform: 1) Many federal policies in the past few years did not recognize the importance of multiple use; 2) Consumers, ranchers and the Western economy are suffering from the present policy.

"Many feel we (cattlemen) are spotters because of our public land use. Those who would like to see us of those lands," Ross said. "I can't see where proper use of public lands is bad!" On other issues, Ross said he feels the animal rights controversy has received more publicity than it deserves. He said NCA has not responded to the movement because "we don't feel it warrants a response." He added that the organization is monitoring the issue and is prepared to act if the need arises. He also reminded the cattlemen of the need to remain current on beef marketings, avoid overproduction of fat, and urged them to support their state and national cattle organizations.

In an afternoon panel discussion focusing on water, Ralph Adkins, legislative chairman and past president of the Colorado Water Congress, gave a brief background on the Congress which was organized in 1968.

Lee Spann, past CCA president and member of the 404 Wetlands Committee in Gunnison County, (Continued on page 2)

IBP, Occidental release details of merger plan

Directors of Occidental Petroleum Corp. and Iowa Beef Processors, Inc. have agreed on definitive details for a merger of the two companies, reports CNS.

Under the agreement, 1,328 shares of Occidental common stock would be issued in exchange for each outstanding share of IBP common stock. IBP shareholders also will receive 0.985 of a share of Occidental voting nonconvertible preferred stock with a liquidation value of \$100 per share in exchange for each outstanding share of common stock of IBP.

IBP shareholders also may opt to receive Occidental stock in the form of five-year callable preferred stock with an annual dividend rate of \$14.62 or ten-year callable preferred stock with an annual dividend rate of \$14.00.

The transaction equals approximately \$77.00 per IBP share based on the closing price of Occidental common stock on Friday, May 29.

In addition, either party may cancel the agreement if it is not completed by Sept. 30.

The agreement also allows IBP not to proceed with the transactions if Occidental common stock price falls below an average \$25 per share for the 10 trading days

immediately before closing. Occidental has the option not to proceed if that average exceeds \$33 per share.

Shareholders of both companies and regulatory agencies still must approve the merger.

Plans call for IBP to continue as a separate subsidiary with its existing management and remain headquartered in Dakota City, Neb.

NEWSPAPER (priority handling)

NEWSPAPER (priority handling)

